

# tattersalls

newsletter **November**



**W**hat a Night!  
Three hundred Members and guests packed **tattersalls** on Friday 19 October for the nineteenth biannual Black Tie Boxing. Sponsored by Qantas, the feature of the evening was the Waterford Crystal Trans Tasman Cup.

Many regulars noted that the seven bout card was the best for many years, with all but the last bout (between James Ronaldson, the current Junior Lightweight Champion, being defeated by the up and coming Greg Eadie) going the distance.

Eadie has been hailed as an emerging international, and his performance on October 19,

certainly backed up this claim.

The Trans Tasman Cup resulted in a draw. The first championship bout saw Brad Milner (NZ) fight Chris Ryan, who had represented Australia in the Arafura Games. Ryan was lucky to win a very close decision.

In the other championship bout, Shane Cameron (NZ) fought Danny Kearney, hailed as the best light-heavyweight in Australia. The Kiwi was too skilful for Kearney and defeated him on points in the four round contest.

A great night of fine food and camaraderie was enjoyed by all present, with many Members retiring to the Bar until the small hours.

**tattersalls**

181 Elizabeth Street Sydney Street Tel 02 9264 6111 Fax 02 9267 8312 email [administration@tattersallsclub.org](mailto:administration@tattersallsclub.org)



# housekeeping

Recently all Member's received in the mail a Registration of Interest form. The purpose of this is for Members to have better communication with sporting and other sub committees charged with organising specific events. Your prompt return of these forms would be appreciated to enable administration staff to process the information this month.

However it should be pointed out that if Members have other interests, the club will endeavour to organise events to satisfy most requests.

Following requests from Members, a House Red and House White have been added to the wine list in the Brasserie. These wines were chosen following a recent tasting attended by 16 Members. The demand for the wines has been very brisk over the past few weeks, and the availability of House Wines will continue. This year there will be our traditional Chocolate Wheel on December 7 and 14. Along with Christmas Hams, a variety of wines and other gourmet delights will be available. Mark these dates into your Christmas calendar.

**tattersalls** - Founded 1858  
181 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000  
Telephone: 02 9264 6111  
Facsimile: 02 9267 8312  
Banqueting: 02 9263 9204  
Athletic Dept: 02 9264 5624

#### Office Hours

8.30 am - 5 pm | Monday to Friday

#### Brasserie

7 am - 8.30 pm | Monday to Wednesday  
7 am - 9.30 pm | Thursday and Friday

#### Bar and Billiard Room

Noon - 9 pm | Monday to Wednesday  
Noon - 10 pm | Thursday and Friday

#### Athletic Department

5.30 am - 9 pm | Monday to Friday  
6 am - 6 pm | Saturday  
Noon - 5 pm | Sunday

## tattersalls Race Day

Tues Jan 1, 2002

at

**Royal Randwick**

Tickets available  
early December



**Book Now**

Phone Admin Office  
on 9264 6111

## PRIME APPOINTMENTS PTY LTD

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## calendar of events

## november

- 6th Melbourne Cup Lunch  
 6th Christian Fellowship Meeting.  
 Bistro level 2  
 15th Swim Club Season concludes  
 Thursday  
 15th Calcutta Handicap Final  
 22nd Swim Club Championships  
 25th Beer & Champagne Tasting

## december

- 4th Swim Club Christmas Scramble  
 6th Christian Fellowship Meeting.  
 Bistro level 2  
 7th Swim Club Christmas Lunch  
 7th Chocolate Wheel  
 14th Chocolate Wheel

## 2002

## january

- 1st Randwick Race Day  
 7th tattersalls reopens for business

## february

- 14th Valentine's Dinner  
 22nd Degustation Dinner  
 28th Snooker Night

## NEW MEMBERS

NAME	OCCUPATION
COLLETT, Mathew Grant Henry	Interest Rates Swaps Broker
DOBBIN, Timothy Michael	Manager
DUCK, James	Business Development Manager
HAY, Scott	Solicitor
HOWARD, Richard Valentine	Banking
HUNTER, Paul Ian	Commercial Real Estate Agent
MACLEOD, Callum	Student
MONAGHAN, James Gerard	Teacher
McCARDELL, Tom Houston	Accounts Officer
PANG, Tatman Dustine	Chief Financial Officer
PANKHURST, Michael James	Auctioneer & Valuer
ROSS, Stephen James	Investment Banker
SPORK, Michael Robin	Publishing
TAYLOR, James Edward	Broker

## REJOINING

DODD Michael Gerard	Banker
NEVILLE Ross Stanley	Solicitor
CLINCH Peter Allan Rowlands	Solicitor

## VALE

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the following members:

Ernest Bruce Upcroft	Member for 33 years
Gordon Alexander Jackson	Member for 14 years
James Newton Russell	Member for 49 years

The following persons have been proposed for Membership:

NAME	PROPOSER	SECONDER
CARN Anthony David	M Hanrahan H64	R DebneyD41
DORMAN Shane	S Finn F28	I Hamilton H33
FINDLAY David William	J Hoffer H97	P Bird B141
FOSTER Preston	M Hanrahan H64	R Debney D41
HARON Mark Seamus	M Hanrahan H64	R Debney D41
HARVEY Simon	D Huxtable H101	R Glover G42
HETHERINGTON James	R Glover G42	M Gillis G59
HOOKE David James	C Poulden P13S	S Hall-Johnston H376
KANN Craig John	M Hanrahan H64	R Debney D41
KELLY Hamish Stewart	C Lindner L59	R Glover G42
LEFEBVRE Paul	N Lefebvre L278	R Sanders S15
LENNON Andrew	N McDonald MC14	A Bongornio B97
McMAHON Simon	J Shawyer S431	H Harrison H79
O'HALLORAN Sean	M L'Huillier L25	C Clyne C100
PEARSON Stephen	M Hanrahan H64	R Debney D41
SADLER Adam Gary	R Glover G42	R Sanders S15

## Under 35 Members

Beer & Champagne Tasting  
 Fri 23 November

Partners & Prospective Members  
 Most Welcome  
 Booking 9264 6111



# from the chairman

The question I am most often asked by members is "How is the Club going?" It's one of those questions that varies from a throw-away greeting in the case of some members, to a serious inquiry about the social and financial health of the Club by others.

So, how are we going? A bit like the curate's egg actually - good in parts!

Generally speaking, I think that the atmosphere in the Club is as good as it has ever been. Members are happy with the facilities available to them with the Athletic Department, the Billiards and Snooker Rooms and the dining all top class and well patronised. We seem to have more member functions than ever and we are trying new ideas as well while being realistic about our role as a city club. If camaraderie is a benchmark then we are doing very well indeed.

Our membership is too low - but it has been getting a real boost from the special deal available to new Under 35 members. And we are making a serious attempt to ensure that new members are welcomed into the various activities in the Club, rather than being left to their own devices. I think that this will help us in the equally important task of retaining members and making our Club relevant to every member no matter what his interests are. By the way, when did you last propose a new member?

Financially, I have to say that we would like to be doing better. So far this year we are behind target with our functions business. We shall pick some of the shortfall up in the December quarter, but not enough to get us to the break-even point for the Club's operation as a whole.

If we do not make a profit at **tattersalls**, it is most usually for one or more of three reasons: our membership subscriptions are insufficient because member numbers are reducing; our functions business is failing to produce enough of a surplus; or our operating expenses have blown out. Simple as that really! The message is that individual members themselves can make a real impact on the first two - and the incentive for doing so is a better, more vibrant club and fewer subscription increases.

Your Committee wants to see a profit because we have a long list of projects and improvements, which we want to fund. Things like even better equipment in the gym, new small dining rooms (which will also add to our functions capabilities), a stairway from the second floor to the lobby, maybe a new sports bar and accommodation for members

Meanwhile, we have to run a little leaner and we are getting on and doing that.

We're going OK - but we could be doing a whole lot better!

RUSSELL DEBNEY

## tattersalls Race Day

Tues Jan 1, 2002

at

Royal Randwick

Tickets available early December



**Book Now**

Phone Admin Office  
on 9264 6111



## STOP PRESS

### NOVEMBER 15.

Snooker Calcutta Final.

Don't miss this match in the Walter Lindrum Match Room and live on The Big Screen in the Members Bar.

### DECEMBER 4.

Swim Club Christmas Scramble.

### DECEMBER 7.

Swim Club Christmas Lunch.

### DECEMBER 7 and 14.

Christmas Chocolate Wheel in the Members Bar

Your chance to win a Christmas Ham or Drinks Package.

## BRASSERIE NEWS

New Menu

New House Wines

## CHRISTMAS FUNCTIONS

Have you considered holding your  
function this year at **tattersalls**?

Call Vicki today on Ph 9263 9204 for  
information, menus and great festive ideas.



# sports

## cycling

### THE ADELAIDE CYCLING CAMP

24th - 29th of August

After months in the making the Adelaide Cycling Camp finally happened. With a total of 12 Cyclists departing, the group was in for a great trip to the vineyard capital of Australia. The touring party assembled with their bikes fully packed for travel with some tour members having more gear with them than Burke and Wills.

The tour party boarded the plane with the knowledge that they were in for a week of hard work with some relaxation and plenty of laughs. The itinerary devised by Josh Kersten ensured there would never be a dull moment.

With some tour members providing weather reports in the lead up to the trip, it sounded as though gumboots and spray jackets would be the standard uniform instead of the official **tattersalls** cycling gear that each member received.

Strong wind warnings and rain reports meant the indoor training would be getting a solid workout.

#### Dont be damned by the details

There are nice chaps walking around this town wearing expensive clothing by brilliant International Designers and still looking pretty ordinary.

The truth is that a pedigreed suit, PARTICULARLY a pedigreed suit, needs to be perfectly fitted to deliver its message. That takes, not just a salesman but a craftsman with a trained eye and a conscience.

It's usually only a matter of half an inch of sleeve or minor adjustments to a trouser cuff or waistband, but getting such items right makes a three thousand dollar suit look like what it is.

Sometimes even a thought about the sort of shirt collar that suits your neck does wonders for a suit.

Now where on earth could you find advice like that?  
Next door.



Vince Maloney  
177 Elizabeth Street, next to **tattersalls**. Ph 9264 8837

The tourists touched down at Adelaide Airport 9:30pm local time and headed straight to the Australian Institute of Sport at Henley Beach, where we were staying for the 5 days of the trip.

Waiting to welcome the tour party at the Airport was Richard Wearne, Australian Rowing Representative from the 1996 Atlanta Olympics who has now switched sports to Cycling and Australian Representative and Commonwealth Gold Medallist in Track Cycling, Tim Lyons. Richard and Tim played the roles of mechanics, van drivers, coaching staff and chaperones for the party.

The Cyclists woke on the Saturday morning and with the bikes fully assembled rode out for training at 9am. The first ride was an easy 40km cycle towards the City of Adelaide. At the halfway point the group stopped for a caffeine fix at one of the many cafes to relax and chew the fat. While the cyclists sipped their lattes and cappuccinos the heavens opened. It not only rained; it was a deluge of epic proportions soaking the **tattersalls** cyclists on the remaining 20km. The sprint race for the showers back at the AIS brought out the competitive edge of many of the party.

With the days full of cycling, the evenings were filled with wining and dining in some of Adelaide's finest restaurants, while drinking the region's best wines. The early starts which included 80 - 100km rides through the Adelaide hills were a tough ask for some team members after hitting the red the night before.

The most enjoyable time had by the touring party was the visit to the AIS Velodrome which consisted of an indoor 250m timber track with a 48 degree banking. This was destined to separate the sprinters from the endurance athletes. After 1hr of practice and warm ups the cyclists had a 500m time trial race, over 2 laps standing start. It was on for young and old and the eventual fastest time went to Michael Hanrahan in a time of 42sec Flat.

Special thanks to the tour sponsors, namely the Adelaide Advertiser Newspaper who provided the team van and Carroll & O'Dea Solicitors and the Tattersalls Club for the great cycling jerseys. Without your help the tour would not have





Black Tie Action



Pumping Iron



I am not going to drop this trophy



Past & Present Lunch



Chairmen



Bill Thompson



More Black Tie Action



I hate the Knights  
(especially one of their supporters)





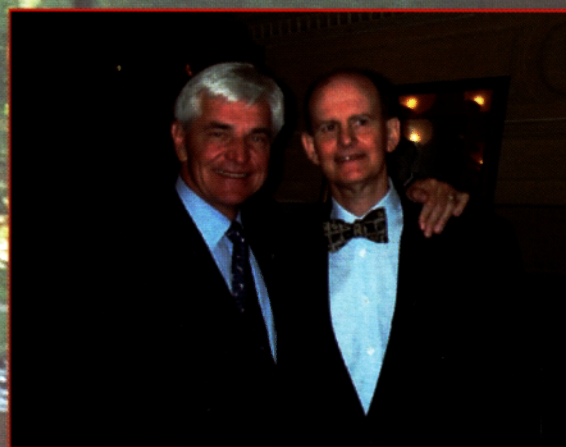
What a Fight!



Comedy at its best



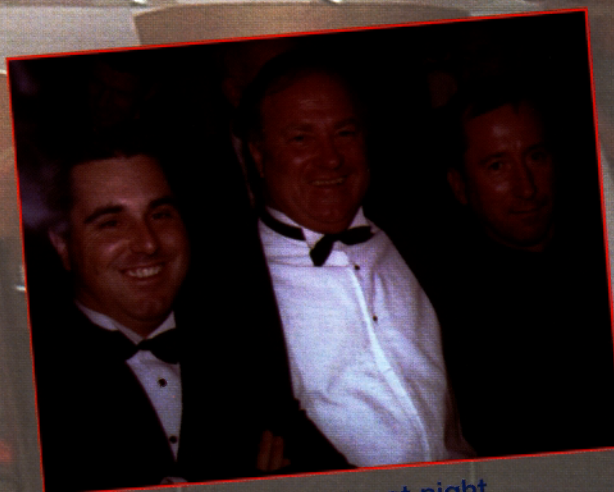
Adrian Abbott



Two Champions



Comedy Capers



That was a great night



## Athletic Department Starter Programs

Starting back into a regular training and exercise program can be the hardest part for any would be exercise enthusiast.

The Athletic Department offers its members starter programs for newly joined members looking to kick off their training regime or members who have been out of the cycle for a while and are looking to "get back into it"..

The Starter programs incorporate light weight training, cardiovascular fitness, abdominal strength and flexibility over a four - six week period based on a minimum of three sessions per week.

The Athletic Department has qualified instructors who will tailor specified individual programs taking into consideration such factors as the member's age, health and current fitness level.

Book at the Athletic Department reception or phone 9264 5624 for an appointment

The Snooker Room has been a very busy location over the past month as we move to the concluding stages of a number of our major competitions, most notably the Handicap Snooker. Tony Tomlin and Mike Fitzgerald have already booked their spots in the Semi-finals with both having memorable quarter final victories. Dates and times for the remaining matches in this tournament will be posted around the club (and on our website) so we urge all members to visit the room and enjoy what are sure to be some hard fought games on the baize.

As advised in our last newsletter we opened all the open championships to all comers this year as well as posted the entry forms for the Christmas Handicap. Entries have now closed and the draws have been completed. With such a busy schedule ahead, we would appreciate if all competitors could make their utmost efforts to complete their matches as soon as practicable. All draws are available for viewing in the Snooker Room.

The Presentation Evening will be a dinner on

Friday, November 30th and we are endeavouring to have all competitions completed by this date.

So, with some great competition and matches ahead the snooker fraternity is looking forward to November.

Finally, do not forget our Club Professional, Joe Minici, is available to assist all members in improving any aspect of their game.

Good Cueing

Chalky

## Tattersalls Touch Football League Season 2001.

The **tattersalls** Touch Football League held throughout September allowed Club members to relive past footballing glories in the hope of not pulling a hamstring in the safe haven that is touch football.

Some entertaining and enterprising football was displayed as members both young and old combined in the three-team competition that was held in the Domain with 6.30am starts.

2000 Premiers, the 6am Sandgropers led by Bob Sanders had their work cut out for them to retain their title as rival skipper, Rick Glover recruited heavily from the influx of new U/35 members for his 7.15am Legends. The Dunstan De Sousa led 6.30pm Nightriders (Premiers '99) were the enigma of the competition and started as favourites in the pre season betting however they found the 6.30am starts difficult, to finish the season winless.

The Grand Final was a replay, of the traditional grudge match between the Sandgropers and the Legends.

The game was very entertaining and close as both teams came close to scoring on a number of occasions. The completion rates for the sets of six tackles were high and the players were keeping the football alive instead of playing safety first which was surprising in a grand final.

Half time saw the Sandgropers hold a narrow 2 - 1 lead after playing the better football in the half.





# sports

The second half saw a change of fortune as the Legends came back strongly with the Sandgropers defence stretched out wide resulting in two tries on their right flank in the space of two minutes with tries to Tim Noonan and James Ferguson.

The game looked set to go into extra time until Ferguson, seeing that the Sandgropers did not have a sweeper put a grubber kick through (kicking is allowed in Tattersalls Touch Football) and beat the cover to score the winning try right on the hooter to win 4 - 3.

Full credit to the Sandgropers who finished the season as minor premiers. They were best served by Callum 'Connor' Macleod, Roland 'The Italian Stallion' Pizzianto, Chris 'Dermmy' McDermott, Bob 'Colonel' Sanders and Richard 'Tricky' McGrath. The best for the Legends included the young brigade of Tim 'Shoulders' Noonan, Sam 'The Man' Garland, Charlie 'HG' Wells, James 'Chicka' Ferguson, Richard 'Mick' Jagger, Alex 'Poppa' Pope and the wily veteran Tony 'Ando' Anderson.

Special thanks must go to the competition referee and Athletic Department staff member Duncan Hay. Duncan is a senior referee in the Balmain District Juniors and maintained the order when things got out of hand as they inevitably do in touch football.

A representative side from this competition will be chosen by the three team captains to play a one off game against a Tattersalls staff team made up of employees from the Athletic Department, Catering and Maintenance sectors later in November.

Lookout for some 'get squares'.

## SWIMMING REPORT

Month 8 saw Mark Roufeil take out his second 50 metres pointscore, with John McCosker prevailing in the 100 metres.

We welcomed new swimmers Callum McLeod and David Kemp to the Swim Club this month with Justin Herlihy returning to the fold.

Results of Month 8 swimming were:

### Manchester Unity Health Award 50m

1. Mark Roufeil	35
2. Russell Debney	23
3. Peter Thiel	22
John McCosker	22

### YTD End Month 8 50m

1. Peter Thiel	203 1/2
2. Mark Roufeil	188
3. John Greaves	164

### Brahimi Bistro Award 100m

1. John McCosker	19
2. Alex Pope	18

### YTD End Month 8 100m

1. Peter Thiel	163
2. Ian Lemmey	159
3. John McCosker	138

### Swimmer of the Month - Month 8 Optus Award

Committee's Choice - Cesar Puertolas

### Progress Points in the Col Bowes Memorial Trophy

Leaders are:

1. Peter Gibson	55
2. Pat Bryant	51
3. John Barker	51

### Manchester Unity 'It's in the Bag' Award

Harry Turner reports that the winner of the Sports Bag is Ian Pendlelton.

## Coming Events:

22nd November Swimming Club Championship

## CHRISTMAS FUNCTIONS

Have you considered holding your function this year at **tattersalls**?  
Call Vicki today on Ph 9263 9204 for information, menus and great festive ideas.





# FLYFISHING

## Tattersalls flyrodders

**tattersalls** now has a fly fishing club and our numbers are swelling, yes, the tattersalls flyrodders is gaining momentum. Last Friday we had our first unofficial meeting in the bistro, sorry to those who couldn't be there, it was unofficial, but a good lunch.

Interest is growing for our first saltwater day on the harbour with 4 confirmed, so be quick if you want to be a part of what promises to be a great day fishing. This will be a regular 2 monthly outing so for those who can't make it don't worry there will be more.

Another day out is planned for Saltwater on Broken Bay and Bass fishing on the Hawkesbury river - there are some monsters up there and we will have a guide to show us the secret location...see our fishing calendar when it comes out.

Further away from Sydney, we are looking at Bass fishing at a secret spot on the Shoalhaven River and trout at Mike Ivanchenko's special river down in the Snowys. Of course, he will only let you in with a good bottle of red.

We are also planning a morning for those of you who need some casting practice and a **tattersalls** fly fishing kit for the first timers.

We also now have an affiliation with the newly established Flyfishers Estate, the ultimate experience in Exclusive Private Wild Trout Angling.

Flyfishers Estate offers 3.5 km of natural stream angling for trophy trout and over 16 km of lakefront foreshore. And after the days angling, relax at the Estate Lodge and talk about that fighting Brown you caught on the 'deeban dry'.

The estate is open for only 100 members and we have the use of it at a very good daily rate. Brochures and more information will be made available at our November meeting

So, I did promise everybody we will get together before Xmas for meeting and a drink...the date is Wednesday 14th November at 6.30 in the Member's Bar. We will have a drink and talk about what we will be doing next year...so come along, its open to all anglers.

Simon Forsyth tattersalls flyrodder convener

## GOLF REPORT

On October 18, the NSW Golf course turned on one of those rare days for the **tattersalls** Cup. A good field of 30 golfers, (I use the term "golfers" loosely) hit off in glorious sunshine and as the afternoon wore on the wind dropped to almost nothing.

Some extraordinary performances were turned in, but none more dramatic than Tim Bagot's who made the turn with 21 points and had one hand and a few fingers on the trophy but unfortunately (hate to use the "C" word in golf, but I'll have to on this occasion) CHOKED! Tim came home with only 3 points to see his dream vanish in a hail of abuse from his partner, who shall remain unnamed. Anyway I'm sure he and everyone else enjoyed the day.

It is only fair to also report another sub standard effort by one John Francis Farnsworth Furlong who usually turns in a competitive performance, however, on this occasion a 6 point front nine spoilt his day, but not mine!

The **tattersalls** Cup winner for 2001 was Jock Murray, followed by Matt Clayton - it was good to see at least one younger member on the course -and Phil McKnight who surprised not only himself, but also his playing partners by hitting the odd ball out of sight and even made a good birdie on the 13th hole.

Winners of the 4 ball comp were Jock Murray and Rob Leece with Tim Bagot and John Tierney coming 2nd and I have no idea who came 3rd. and who cares anyway!

Several guests played and the guest comp was won by Peter Bunting (a publican who obviously has time to work on his golf?) with 4 ball winners Greg Davis and John Canfield, who were guests of Murray Wood. Thanks Murray for your support.

A great day had by all and remember a bad day's golf beats a good day's work anytime.

See you at the next game which is yet to be organised but should be sometime in February 2002 Watch the newsletter for more details.

John Tierney

**tattersalls Cup**  
**Champion for 2001**  
**2nd**  
**3rd**

Jock Murray  
 Matt Clayton  
 Phil McKnight

**4 ball Winners**

Jock Murray  
 Rob Leece





# travel

## ***FUN IN THE SUN***

These days Sun, Surf and Safety sounds like a pretty potent holiday combination. But that doesn't have to mean staying home amidst year-round routine. For those who crave escape from work stress, world uncertainty and voter serenading (on radio) by off-key pollies/politicians, there are a number of destinations close to home which offer the three S's and even lay on lots of pampering. Here we've compiled especially for you/our Tatts clients a list of special, secure getaways:

### **THAILAND**

**1)** Shop, sightsee and rejuvenate with 4 nights at five-star 'Chiva Som International Health Resort'. Set beachside on 7 acres at Hua Hin, 210 kms (two and a half hour drive) south of the capital and 2 nights at five-star 'The Westin Banyan Tree Hotel', Bangkok.

**Cost** \$3799.00 per person (twin share)

#### **Inclusions:**

Return economy class airfare with Thai Airways, Australian airport taxes and all transfers.

Accommodation at Chiva Som with all meals, shuttle service to and from town, Health & Beauty Consultation, Choice of Massage & Heat Treatment, use of fitness & leisure facilities.

Accommodation with daily breakfast at the Banyan Tree Hotel.

- Additional special fitness/ rejuvenation programs available - hydrotherapy, physiotherapy, personal fitness assessment & training, exercise, dance, Tai Chi and Yoga.

- To ensure total relaxation, house rules stipulate no mobile phones, no smoking or children under 16 years of age.

**2)** Relax, pamper and unwind with 7 nights at luxury, five-star 'Royal Le Meridien Yacht Club' in Phuket.

This resort is set on a secluded beachside overlooking a scenic bay - all rooms have private patios.

**Cost** from \$2199.00 per person (twin share)

#### **Inclusions:**

• Return economy class airfares with Qantas, Australian airport taxes, all transfers, accommodation and breakfast.

• The Yacht Club offers a range of Spa Indulgence packages and Health programs which include: Thai herbal body polish, traditional Thai massage and Thai Floral Bath sensation

**3)** Island Getaway Value-for-Money Special of 7 nights at 'Samui Bay Villa & Resort' on Koh Samui.

**Cost** from \$1499.00 per person (twin share)

#### **Inclusions:**

Return economy class airfares with Qantas, Australian airport taxes, private car transfers, full breakfast, 'Stay 7 pay for 5 nights' accommodation.

### **FIJI**

Pacific Escapade for 7 nights at 'Shangri La Fijian'

**Special Cost** from \$1299.00 per person

#### **Inclusions:**

Return economy class airfare with Qantas, Australian airport taxes, coach transfers, breakfast daily, "Stay 7 nights pay for 5 nights" accommodation.

### **INTRODUCTORY OFFER:**

A new resort, 'The Evason Resort and Spa' Phuket has its grand opening late in November 2001. Set on 64 acres of lush and natural surroundings with 301 guest rooms all with either sea or bay view. The resort has its own private island, accessible for guests' use approx. 15 minutes by boat.

Special promotional packages are now available.

### **SPECIAL BUSINESS CLASS AIRFARES:**

- SINGAPORE AIRLINES - SINGAPORE RETURN \$2599.00 • SINGAPORE AIRLINES - BANGKOK RETURN \$3050.00
- QANTAS AIRWAYS - PARIS / FRANKFURT \$6199.00 VIA SINGAPORE & BANGKOK
- QANTAS AIRWAYS - LONDON \$6550.00 VIA SINGAPORE/BANGKOK/PARIS/FRANKFURT

For all enquiries call Barbara Whitten at Anywhere Travel. Email: [barbaraw@anywheretravel.com.au](mailto:barbaraw@anywheretravel.com.au)

Or Victor Zaratian email: [victorz@anywheretravel.com.au](mailto:victorz@anywheretravel.com.au)

345 Anzac Parade, Kingsford, NSW 2032

Phone: 02 9663 0411

Fax: 02 9662 2860



# expertonline

## Bill (The Guv'nor) Pearce. Retired hotelier. Senior member of the tattersalls 'Lunchtime Crew'

### Where were you brought up?

I was born in Croydon in Surrey in England. I was one of four brothers and a sister from a hotel-keeping family.

### What was your first job?

I left the local parish school in the thirties and started working 66 hours a week as a waiter. I earned five shillings a week. I remember being clipped over the ear by the head waiter. When I asked "Why" he said, "Because you weren't carrying anything from A to B. In other words, I wasn't carrying a plate across the restaurant!"

In London, I worked in establishments like the Dorchester and The Ritz looking after people from King Hussein of Jordan and Prince Bernhardt of the Netherlands to The Shah of Persia.

I joined the army in 1942 where I was assigned to the Royal Ordnance Corps and learnt how to blow things up.

### Did you play sport?

The usual knock-about cricket. I boxed a bit in the army but I'm not very big and when the sergeant put me in the ring with a six foot giant. I said "I'm not boxing him!" "What if 'e was a German?" demanded the sergeant. I said, "If he was a German, I'd have one up the spout and some steel on the end!" I ended up in hospital after the fight and decided that my 'Rocky' career was over.

### And after the war?

I came out of the army and a chap said, "Do you know anything about engines?" I said "No." Next thing I had a job taking the engines out of bombers.

Then I worked in restaurant cars on the Southern Railway. In 1948 I heard that there were jobs going on the P&O and that's how I first came to Australia - to Fremantle in 1949. I sailed on the 'Himalaya and Arcadia and also the Strath boats'

On board, we had all kinds of famous names. Some outstanding memories were Tilly DeVine, the Sydney underworld queen (whose language was pretty blue), the Australian cricket team captained by Ritchie Benaud and the wife of a world-famous author who was travelling from Los

Angeles to Spain to be with her boyfriend. She drank vodka every day and on one memorable occasion, insulted the captain. But she didn't care. She took a shine to me and said "Why don't you come to Hollywood with me, Bill?" I was courting Joan my future wife at the time - I was terrified!

When did you finally settle down in Australia?

I met my wife in 1963 on board. She had been an opera singer with Sadlers Wells Opera and was emigrating to Australia. I stayed sailing for another year to save some money, then took my discharge from the 'Arcadia' in London and returned to Australia as a fare paying passenger.

### How did you become one of NSW's top hoteliers?

When I arrived in Australia, we thought we'd open a bed and breakfast. Someone said "You ought to get into a pub." and referred me to a broker. They put me into a hotel out in Temora - all wheat and sheep - it was the only pub still with a hitching rail outside. I didn't know that it was known as the 'graveyard of publicans'. We worked 25 hours a day, eight days a week. The order from the regulars in those days was "Give me a middy and the change of a quid 'till next week." What that meant was that you'd give them a beer, plus the cash to make up a pound, enter the loan in the book and cross it out when they paid you back. We weren't just the pub, we were also the bank.

Our customers were roustabouts, shearers, a one-legged drover with twelve dogs - real bush characters. We stayed there for two years. When we left, there were about thirty people in the bar to see us off. I nearly cried.

### Then you came to Sydney?

"Yes, I had the 'Macquarie' hotel in Wentworth Avenue where I had all the police; the Vice Squad, the Consorting squad, Fraud squad...then Harry Hickling the racehorse owner sold me the 'Greenwood Tree' opposite the Barracks. I used to get all the Vietnam fellows. I sent



One of life's great storytellers, the natty Guv'nor in his element behind the bar

six dozen glasses to Vietnam etched with "From the Guv'nor of The Greenwood Tree". One of the soldiers told me that they had to put a guard on the Mess to stop Americans souveniring them. Next I had the 'Crown' in Cleveland Street (the 'Crown' was the home of the police pipe band and the drum major's son is now a tattersalls member), then 'Dick's' in Balmain. But the drink driving laws came in and the bottom dropped out of the market. So I bought a small hotel in Waterloo that had been owned by Alan Bond who'd emigrated on my ship the 'Himalaya' when he was 12 years of age.

Now I'm retired and live at Rose Bay."

### Who would you most like to have lunch with?

"The same four friends I spend most lunchtimes with in the corner of the tattersalls bar. We've been called "The Lunchtime Crew" by the staff - there's Tony, Arthur, David and Adrian. We've been a lunchtime fixture for ages. I was very touched when the club recently held a special lunch for us in recognition of our regular contribution to the bar's profitability."

### Bill, you look far younger than 84. What's the secret?

"I've got a wonderful wife, Joan. And I've got wonderful children in Michelle, Ainslie, Colin and Kevin. I can't believe I'm in my eighties. Inside, I feel about forty, so when I'm out walking I think: "You're forty today." and I walk like a forty year old.

The other thing is scotch. I've drunk it all my life. In the pub, my scotch was always